

WASHINGTON, DC - Today, Congressman Jim Costa (CA-20) and Congressman George Radanovich (CA-19) praised the inclusion of a provision that will benefit the Valley within the bipartisan Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2005 (HR 2864). The House passed its version and it will be reconciled by the Conference Committee in the near future. Costa and Radanovich issued the following statements in response to this action:

Costa

“The Valley Regional Water Plan will help ensure we have the water needed to sustain the Valley lifestyle, support regional economic growth and retain a world-class agricultural community. In addition, we will work to achieve a reliable high-quality urban water supply and protect and enhance our local environment.

“The effort will include long-term planning for water supply, water quality, flood control and environmental restoration. By coming together and working together, the Water Plan will help the Valley confront and overcome future water challenges. Congressman Radanovich and I look forward to working with our colleagues Congressmen Cardoza and Nunes and state and local-elected officials to develop this program from the bottom up.”

Radanovich

“Specifically, the report language authorizes an Army Corps of Engineers study for the development of the Valley Regional Water Plan. This is big news for the Valley and our quest to create a Regional Water Plan. With my colleague Representative Jim Costa, we will be hard at work on this crucial effort. Our people depend on their water for not only agriculture, the environment and daily use, but for jobs and economic growth as well. This authorization will help us develop a plan to secure water for future generations.

“The language in the WRDA bill states that the study will include an assessment of water supply issues, Jim and I will be working to also include the issues of water quality, environmental restoration and flood control. In addition, we will seek to expand the number of counties to comprise Madera, Tulare, Merced, Stanislaus and San Joaquin counties. This is

in addition to Fresno, Kings and Kern Counties, which are already included in the WRDA language creating the study."

#